The EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA

Queen's University at Kingston

CHAMBERS'S

INFORMATION FOR THE PEOPLE.

CONDUCTED BY WILLIAM AND ROBERT CHAMBERS, EDITORS OF CHAMBERS'S EDINBURGH JOURNAL, EDUCATIONAL COURSE, &c.

NUMBER 17. NEW AND IMPROVED SERIES. PRICE 1½d.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA, AND OTHER BRITISH AMERICAN POSSESSIONS.

EMIGRATION is a subject which may be regarded in two important points of view—either as a principle accordant with the institutions of nature, as serving to distribute a human population over the earth, or as a measure of relief applicable to a particular condition of some particular country.

At present, as is well known, there are vast portions of the earth's surface, either not at all, or very thinly peopled, although furnished by nature with all the means of sustaining a healthy and numerous population. Assuredly, if life be upon the whole a blessing, and if accordingly it be desirable that it be enjoyed by as many as possible, no argument is needed to show that the spreading of the children of men over such countries, where they may increase and multiply, is an object justified equally by reason and by benevolent feeling. If, again, the population of any particular country be straitened by their numbers being in over-proportion to space, or at least to space as affected by regulations which, from peculiar causes, there is little hope of seeing quickly altered, an additional reason is furnished why men should remove to new soils.

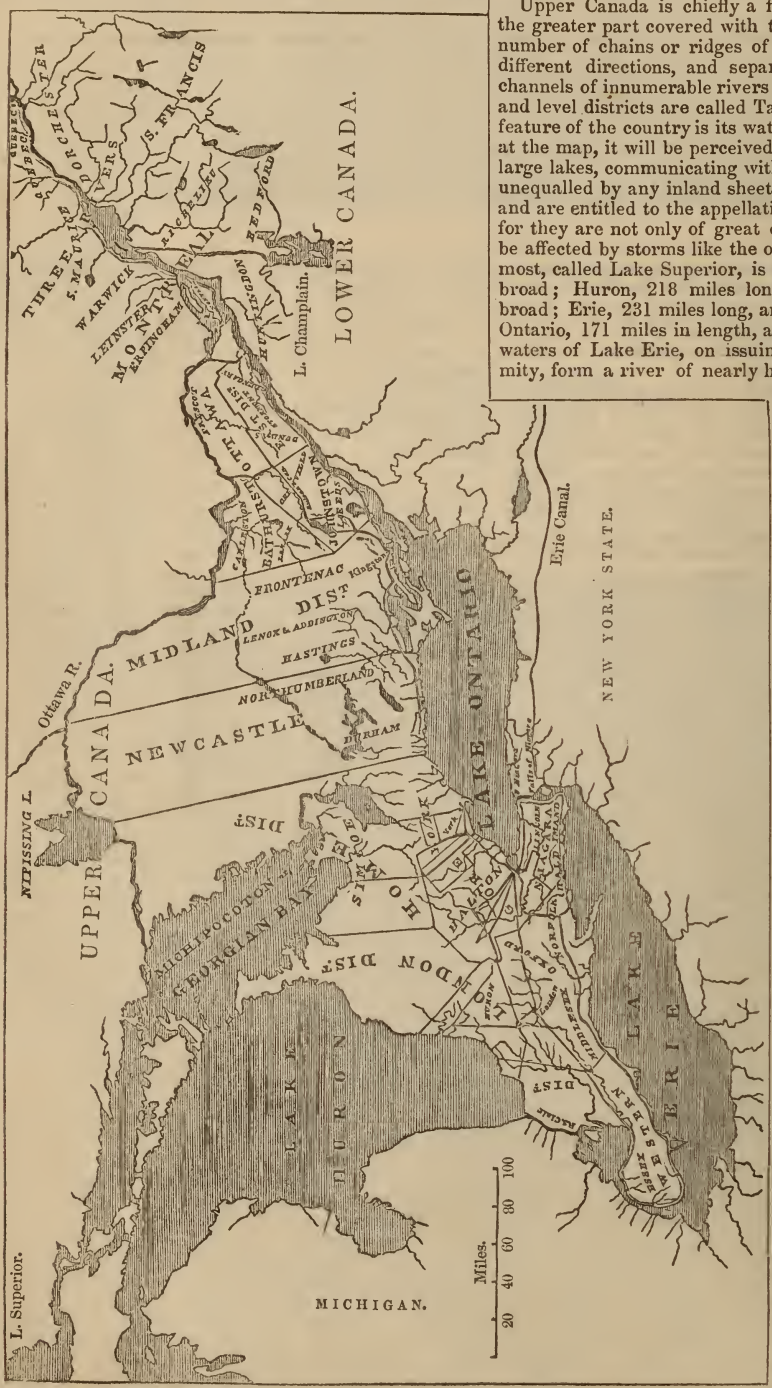
From one cause or another, emigration is a subject of considerable interest to the British public, and for some years has been practised upon a large scale. It is not necessary here to discuss these causes, but it may be allowable to present an account of the various countries chiefly resorted to by British emigrants, such as may be useful to persons contemplating a change of country, and at the same time convey to those who remain some knowledge of the regions to which so many of their friends and fellow-countrymen have removed. In drawing up these accounts, we are animated by an extreme desire to be correct and faithful, so that no one shall be unduly persuaded or dissuaded with respect to so important a step as that of emigration. If, therefore, any error should find its way into our pages, it must be attributed to unfaithfulness in the original reporters, or to our imperfect handling of the subject, and to no other cause.

There are three regions of the earth to which the attention of emigrants is chiefly directed, namely, Canada and the other British possessions in North America; the United States, which many prefer, and which hold out similar advantages; and the British colonies in Australia, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand. At present, our attention will be confined to Canada and the other British American possessions.

CANADA.—GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

North America, of which Canada is a part, lies at the distance of 3000 miles west from Great Britain, on the opposite shore of the Atlantic Ocean. This vast continent is much larger than Europe, measuring 4376 miles in length from north to south, and 3000 miles across from east to west. As yet only a portion of the territory, measuring a few hundred miles back from the coast of the Atlantic, has been settled by people of European descent. Excepting in a few districts, the remainder of the continent is possessed only by a thin and scattered population of aborigines. The southern and tropical part of North America is composed of the republics of Guatemala and Mexico; the most temperate portion (from the 30th parallel of latitude to about the 43d) forms the republic of the United States. The more northerly part, with some islands, is in the possession of Great Britain, and comprehends the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Cape Breton, St John's or Prince Edward Island, &c. The line of division betwixt the British possessions and the United States, is either the River St Lawrence and the lakes from whence it proceeds, or an ideal and partly contested boundary. Canada is bounded on the east by the Gulf of St Lawrence and Labrador; on the north by the territories of Hudson's Bay; on the west by the Pacific Ocean; on the south by Indian countries, parts of the United States, and New Brunswick. Canada is divided into two provinces, the Upper and Lower, each of which has hitherto had its own local government; but by a recent act of the Imperial Parliament, the two provinces are united under one general legislative council and house of assembly, two bodies respectively resembling the Houses of Peers and Commons in the mother country, and whose measures require the consent of the governor, as the acts of the home Parliament require that of the sovereign. The affairs of this, as of all other colonies, are subject to an ultimate control, vested immediately in a colonial minister, but finally in the British legislature. In Lower Canada, or that portion next the sea-coast, the greater part of the population is of French descent (this having originally been a French colony); the laws resemble those of France, and the French language is generally spoken. Upper Canada, or more properly *Inner* Canada, lies to the west and south-west of the lower province. Its inhabitants are of British descent, and a very great number of them are from Scotland, both Lowlands and Highlands. The English law and church are here established; but there is the most perfect liberty of conscience, and as great a security of life and property as even in Scotland or England. Upper Canada is divided into districts, counties, ridings, townships, special tracts, and allotments, together with blocks of land reserved for the clergy and the crown, and lands appropriated to the Indians. A district contains two or three counties, and each county contains from four to thirty townships. There are 13 districts, 26 counties, and 6 ridings, comprising together 273 townships. The line of division betwixt Upper and Lower Canada is in one part the Ottawa or Grand River; nearly all the other lines of division in the provinces are straight, without regard to physical distinc-

tion, such as hills and rivers; and this peculiarity is common over the whole of North America. The average territory of each township may be estimated at 61,600 acres, making an aggregate quantity of 16,816,800 acres. About 7,000,000 of acres have been granted to different classes of settlers; 4,805,400 acres are reserved for the crown and clergy (part of which has already been granted by the crown to the Canada Company); and 5,011,400 acres remain to be granted within the townships. This tract of country, chiefly bordering the north shore of the River St Lawrence to Lake Ontario, the northern side of that lake, and of Lake Erie up to Lake St Clair, and of the communication between it and Lake Huron, a distance little short of five hundred and seventy miles, and stretching northward from the water to a depth varying from fifty to eighty miles, is composed of a soil, which, for productive richness, variety, and applicability to the highest purposes of agriculture, may challenge competition with the choicest tracts of land in the New World.



Upper Canada is chiefly a flat country, and is for the greater part covered with timber, but possesses a number of chains or ridges of high lands, running in different directions, and separating the sources and channels of innumerable rivers and brooks. The higher and level districts are called Table Lands. The grand feature of the country is its water-courses. By looking at the map, it will be perceived that there is a series of large lakes, communicating with each other; these are unequalled by any inland sheets of water in the world, and are entitled to the appellation of fresh-water seas, for they are not only of great extent, but are liable to be affected by storms like the ocean itself. The uppermost, called Lake Superior, is 381 miles long, and 161 broad; Huron, 218 miles long, and from 60 to 180 broad; Erie, 231 miles long, and about 70 in breadth; Ontario, 171 miles in length, and 60 in breadth. The waters of Lake Erie, on issuing from its lower extremity, form a river of nearly half a mile broad, which in its course is precipitated over a precipice to a depth of 165 feet, thus making the famed cataract or Falls of Niagara. The river is, at the distance of a few miles below, received by Lake Ontario, whence issues the River St Lawrence, one of the largest streams in the world, and which, after a course of 2000 miles, falls into the Atlantic. This majestic river is 90 miles wide at its mouth, and is navigable for ships of the line for 400 miles from the ocean. In its upper parts, its navigation is impeded by *rapids*, or the rushing of the stream down an inclined plane; but some of these impediments are obviated by means of canals recently cut; wherefore there is now a continued water communication for vessels from the Atlantic into the interior or innermost lakes. The Welland Canal, a magnificent undertaking, connects Lakes Erie and Ontario, and affords a passage for vessels of large size. Lake Erie is also connected by a canal with the Hudson, a river of the United States, which also falls into the Atlantic. The Ottawa, or Grand River, is next to the St Lawrence in point of

size, and is tributary to it. It falls into the north side of the St Lawrence at Montreal. The Welland, or Chippewa, is also a remarkably fine river, wholly unobstructed by falls. The St Lawrence has a tendency northward in its course, and, therefore, the farther up its banks the more mild does the climate become.

The chief towns in Canada are Quebec, Montreal, Three Rivers, Prescot, Kingston, and Toronto, formerly called York. The city of Quebec is the capital of Lower Canada, and stands on the extremity of a precipitous cape, on the north bank of the St Lawrence, opposite the island of Orleans. The appearance of the town, on coming into view, is particularly striking. The city is divided into an upper and lower town; the former being of ancient date, and adopted as the seat of commerce, and the latter being the residence of the higher and more affluent classes. There are a number of fine public edifices; among the rest, the castle of St Louis, a prominent object on the summit of the rock; the Roman Catholic and Protestant Cathedrals, the barracks, hospitals, the Quebec bank, and a handsome monument to Wolfe and Montcalm. The institutions are, in many instances, of French character, and the language of the inhabitants is French and English.

Montreal is a city of an entirely different appearance. It is agreeably situated on a beautiful island of the same name in the St Lawrence, which measures thirty-two miles long by ten and a half broad, and lies at the confluence of the Ottawa River and the St Lawrence. The island of Montreal is nearly level, and is scarcely excelled in fertility. The city stands on the south side of the island, and is reckoned the first in the province, in respect of situation, local advantages, and mildness of climate. The houses are well built, and the streets commodious. There are also some handsome public buildings. The literary and scholastic institutions in Montreal are numerous, and are of great benefit to the province. There are no wharfs, and the ships and steam-boats sail close to the bank of the river, where there is deep water. Mr Macgregor mentions, in his work on British America, that there is much activity observable among all classes connected with trade. "The position of Montreal," says he, "at the head of the ship navigation, and near the confluence of the St Lawrence with the Ottawa, and its subsequent communication with Upper Canada, the Gennessee country, and other parts of the United States, will always constitute it one of the greatest commercial emporiums in America, which must increase in magnitude and importance along with the rapid improvement and increasing population of the upper and surrounding countries. In winter, the trade of Montreal is not suspended like that of Quebec. Hundreds of sledges may be seen coming in from all directions with agricultural produce, and frozen carcasses of beef and pork, firewood, and other articles. Manufactured goods of all kinds are continually selling off in packages by the merchants or the auctioneers to the shopkeepers and country dealers, who again retail them to the towns-folk or country people; and flour, wheat, potatoes, &c., are continually coming in, and filling the stores or warehouses. The markets of Montreal are abundantly supplied at all seasons of the year."

CHARACTER OF DISTRICTS IN CANADA.

The various writers on Canada each recommend particular districts for the settlement of the emigrant; but it is hardly to be expected that persons in this country can make a perfectly judicious choice, a personal inspection of the lands, or at least information near the spot, being in almost every case requisite. The most elaborate details are given by Bouchette, in his large work on British America, regarding the different parts of the province; and as what he mentions may be of use in furnishing emigrants with an idea of the nature of the lands, we take the liberty of offering a few of his observations.

"*The Eastern Section*, including Ottawa, Johnstoun, Midland, and Bathurst districts.—Situated between two broad and navigable rivers, the Ottawa and the St Lawrence, and centrally traversed in a diagonal course by an extensive and splendid sloop canal, connecting the navigation with the waters of Ontario, this section of country evidently enjoys important geographical and local advantages. Its surface presents, almost unexceptionably, a table level of moderate elevation, with a very gentle and scarcely perceptible depression, as it approaches the margin of the magnificent streams by which it is bounded to the northward and south-east. The soil, though sometimes too moist and marshy, is extremely rich and fertile, and chiefly consists of a brown clay and yellow loam. This section is intersected by numerous rivers, remarkable for the multitude of their branches and minor ramifications. There are also a number of good public roads, both along the St Lawrence and Ottawa, and into the interior. Great industry and attention to improvement are displayed upon most of the lands throughout this tract. The town of Kingston, the largest and most populous of the upper province, is very advantageously seated on the north side of the St Lawrence, or rather at the eastern extremity of Lake Ontario. The streets are regular and well planned, and the number of houses may be estimated at about 620. The town has now considerable mercantile importance; the harbour is well sheltered and convenient.

The thriving village of Perth is situated in the township of Drummond, on a branch of the Rideau, and occupies a central position between the Grand River and the St Lawrence, communicating by tolerably good roads with Kingston to the south and Bytown to the northward, at the opposite extremities of the Rideau Canal. The first establishment, fostered by government, was made in 1815, by British emigrants, chiefly from Scotland, many of whom are now at the head of excellent farms, possess comfortable habitations, and reap the fruits of their perseverance and industry.

Ascending along the shores of Lake Chaudiere, the objects of note first presenting themselves are the rising colonies in front of the townships of March and Tarbolton; they are chiefly composed of families of high respectability, possessed in general of adequate means to avail themselves of the advantages that are incident to a newly opened country. High up, on the bold and abrupt shore of the *Chats*, the Highland chief Macnab has erected a romantic edifice, Kinell Lodge, which he has succeeded, through the most unshaken perseverance, in rendering exceedingly comfortable.

The Central Section of the province (continues the accurate Bouchette) embraces the districts of Home and Newcastle, which occupy a grant of about one hundred and twenty miles upon Lake Ontario, extending from the head of the Bay of Quinté westward to the line between Toronto and Trafalgar. Although less populous than the tract of country composing the first part of the division which we have adopted, this portion of the province does not yield to it in fertility, and is equally well watered by numerous lakes, broad and beautiful rivers, and innumerable streams and brooks. The rivers in general abound with excellent fish, and especially salmon, great quantities of which are annually speared in the River Credit, for the supply of the western country. In front of Newcastle district, on the borders of Lake Ontario, the soil consists of a rich black earth; but in the district of Home, the shores of the lake are of an inferior quality. The lands upon Yonge Street [roads are frequently called streets in Canada], which connects Toronto with Lake Simcoe, are exceedingly fertile, but so destitute of stones (for building and other purposes), as to create some inconvenience to the settlers. A sandy plain, of some extent, exists some distance north of Ontario, towards Rice Lake; but, saving this, and probably one or two more comparatively insignificant exceptions, the soil of this tract of country is extremely fertile, well adapted for agriculture, and yields luxuriant crops of wheat, rye,

maize or Indian corn, peas, barley, oats, buckwheat, &c. The fronts of all the townships from Kingston to Toronto are, with few exceptions, well settled; roads lead through them, from which, in many places, others branch off to the interior. At intervals, rather distant indeed from each other, there are a few small villages. On the lands that are occupied, great progress has been made in agriculture: the horses, generally speaking, are strong and well built; and the inhabitants appear to be possessed of all the necessaries, as well as most of the comforts, that a life of industry usually bestows." In this division is the town of Toronto. Our authority next proceeds to notice

The Western Section, which includes Gore, Niagara, London, and Western districts. "With the aid of a little fancy," says Bouchette, "this tract of country may be shaped into a vast equilateral triangular peninsula, whose base, extending from Fort Erie to Cape Hurd on Lake Huron, measures 216 miles, and whose perpendicular, striking the Detroit River at Amherstburgh, is about 195 miles. It is bounded to the north and west by Lake Huron, River and Lake St Clair, and Detroit River; south by Lake Erie; and east by Niagara River, Lake Ontario, and the western limits of the district of Home. The surface it exhibits is uniformly level, or slightly undulating, if we except a very few solitary eminences, and those parts of the districts of Gore and Niagara traversed by the ridge of elevated land. The variety of soils, and the diversity of their combinations, observable in these four districts, are by no means so great as might be expected in so extended a region. The whole tract is alluvial in its formation, and chiefly consists of a stratum of black, and sometimes yellow loam, above which is deposited, when in a state of nature, a rich and deep vegetable mould, the substratum beneath the bed of loam being generally a tenacious grey or blue clay, which in some parts appears at the surface, and, intermixed with sand, constitutes the super-soil. There are numerous and extensive quarries of limestone to be found in these districts, that supply the farmers with excellent materials for building. Freestone is also found, but in small quantities, and generally along the shores of the lakes. The Thames River, in this section, rises far in the interior, and, after pursuing a serpentine course of about one hundred and fifty miles, in a direction nearly south-west, discharges itself into Lake St Clair." This portion of the province seems to us to be that most worthy of the attention of the emigrant; the climate is pleasant, the land excellent, the rivers numerous and useful; roads are opening up in all directions for the benefit of the inhabitants; and although at a great distance inland, the communication with the ocean is conveniently kept up by means of the lakes and canals. Were we about to emigrate, we would have little hesitation in directing our steps towards this portion of Upper Canada, so tempting from the prodigious vastness of its waters, the exuberant fertility of its extensive plains, its luxuriant orchards, and its busy scenes of rural industry.

Nearly equal to this tract, and superior as regards exemption from ague, is the Simcoe district, lying betwixt the lake of that name and the eastern part of Lake Huron. This land is about 900 feet above the level of Ontario, and of the richest quality. A steamboat on Lake Simcoe conveys the produce to Holland-landing at the south end of the lake, and a railroad has been projected from thence to Toronto. A great part of this tract being settled by naval and military half-pay officers, who draw their pay quarterly, there will, consequently, be more ready money circulating here, and more employment for all kinds of tradesmen, than in most other places. The land here is rising rapidly in value. We may state that all kinds of tradesmen will find abundance of employment at Toronto; but, in consequence of its low situation on Lake Ontario, it is liable to agues, and will be avoided by those who are subject to such affections.

It may here be remarked, that the general salubrity of the climate improves as you recede from the banks of the lakes and great rivers, although these possess, as a counterpoise, a greater facility of disposing of surplus produce.

The prevailing maladies on the shores of the lakes and large rivers are fevers and the ague, which, although a most annoying complaint, is very seldom fatal. By great care being given to regularity of the bowels, moderate use of spirituous liquors, keeping the feet dry, and avoiding unnecessary exposure to night air, it may generally be averted. We cannot sufficiently impress on the minds of emigrants the necessity they will be under of adhering to temperate habits. In the Canadas, whisky is much cheaper than in Britain; hence this advice becomes of double importance.

Mr Fergusson, in his "Practical Notes," made during a tour in Canada in 1831, furnishes his readers with a number of valuable illustrations of the state and appearance of the Upper Province along the routes he pursued: indeed, all intending emigrants who can afford it should purchase his very instructive volume. Speaking of that part of the territory adjacent to Lower Canada, he says—"Returning to the St Lawrence, we enter the Upper Province, the Ottawa here forming the boundary line. As we ascend the river, we find numerous settlers, and thousands of acres well adapted for the farmer. One of the first settlements we meet with is the Glengarry district, an extensive tract of good land, enjoying the advantages of water carriage. The language, the customs, and the native courage of their Celtic sires, still distinguish the clan, though at the same time, we are afraid, accompanied by some of those less profitable traits which stamp the Highlander as more at home in wielding the claymore, or extracting mountain dew, than in guiding the ploughshare to slow but certain results. The farms are but indifferently improved, considering the advantages they have enjoyed; and much valuable time is expended in the depths of the forest, in a demi-savage life, cutting and preparing timber for the lumber merchant, which, if steadily devoted to the cultivation of the land, would certainly be attended with infinitely greater benefit, both in a physical and moral point of view.

To go minutely into the statistics of even the banks of the river, would far exceed the limits to which I must necessarily restrict myself. Suffice it to say, that a constant succession of eligible situations present themselves for estates and farms. I was much pleased with the Matilda district, and consider it capable of great improvement. The soil is a fine mellow sandy loam, sometimes perhaps rather light, but admirably adapted for turnip husbandry and fine-wooled sheep, with numerous beautiful situations for residences, the noble St Lawrence ever forming a prominent feature—its surface varied by lovely wooded islands, similar to those we so justly admire on many of our British lakes. In approaching Kingston, or the east end of Lake Ontario, the River Guananogue falls into the St Lawrence, and at its mouth is the establishment of Messrs M'Donell, two brothers who came about eight years ago to the colony, and who, by steady enterprise, without original capital, have realised considerable wealth, while, along with it, they have secured the respect and esteem of all who know them. They have here what is called in America a valuable water privilege, or fall, and have erected flour and saw mills to a large extent.

Having received very encouraging accounts at Kingston, of the country along the Bay of Quinté, a deep inlet of Lake Ontario, formed by a peninsula called Prince Edward's Island, I made an excursion into that district. The scenery was pleasing, in many places very fine; and settlements are forming on every hand. The soil is partly clay, partly loam and sand, sufficiently rich to yield fifteen crops of good wheat, with impunity, in a period of twenty years. Granite, limestone, and schistus, or clay-slate, are successively met with. Wherever a stream or creek of any importance falls into the lake, there we find a mill-seat and a village growing up, the embryo, in many cases, of considerable towns.

To the patriot or philanthropist, it is highly gratifying to remark, how the wants of the farmer and the interests of the trader or mechanic co-operate in the rapid progress of general improvement and civilisation. Holywell, Sophiaburgh, and Belville, are all thriving villages of this description; and many individuals are to be met with in each, who, from the humble situations of merchant's clerks, &c., have rapidly risen to independence.

Toronto (he says in another place) is a very desirable station for a settler to choose as head-quarters, in looking about for a purchase. He is sure at this place to meet with numerous offers of farms, regarding which he will do well to act with caution; and he will be able to inspect the plans of public lands in the government land-office, under the superintendence of Mr P. Robinson, a gentleman able and willing to afford him every facility. The *rich* and *heavy* land of Upper Canada is not to be found, in general, upon the immediate banks of the lakes and rivers. It lies for the most part from twelve to twenty miles back, and thus compensates the enterprising settler for plunging into the forest."

The shores of the lakes of Upper Canada present many superior stations for emigrants, the soil being of the very best quality, and the climate not so severe as it is nearer the sea. These districts are rapidly becoming peopled, through the exertions of government and the enterprise of private individuals. Even in the settled districts of both Lower and Upper Canada, there is still abundance of good land to be disposed of: the clergy-reserve land alone, in the latter, remaining unsold, amounts to 1,525,245 acres.

The climate of Canada presents very opposite extremes of heat and cold, and the transition from the one to the other is much more sudden than in this country. Notwithstanding this, however, it is healthy; all accounts which we have seen, both those of travellers and the letters of private individuals, agreeing in this respect. The spring in Canada generally commences about the end of April, and the fields are well covered with vegetation by the beginning of May. The thermometer ranges during summer from about 80° to 84°; in some instances it has reached 102°, but such extreme heat is very rarely felt. Spring, summer, and autumn, extend from the end of April to October. Winter commences in November, when thick fogs and snow-storms are frequent. By the middle of December the ground is generally covered with snow several feet deep, and the frost becomes very intense. The rivers are all frozen over; even the St Lawrence is covered with ice almost to the town of Quebec. During this season, the thermometer ranges from 25° above to 25° below zero. The sky is then quite cloudless, the air bracing, and, from the absence of wind, in spite of the low temperature, the cold is not felt to be disagreeable. "All the feathered tribe," says Mr Montgomery Martin, "take the alarm; even the hardy crow retreats, and few quadrupeds are to be seen—some, like the bear, remaining in a torpid state, and others, like the hare, changing their colour to a pure white." From Quebec to Montreal the St Lawrence ceases to be navigable, but its firm icy surface serves as a road for the sleighs and carrioles. Instead of the variety which a Canadian summer presents, in tracing the course of noble rivers, the fall of beautiful cataracts, the gaiety and liveliness of the busy hum of commerce in the passing vessels on the moving waters, the fine tints of the forest and the auburn tinge of the ripening corn, the whistle of the ploughboy and the lowing of the tended kine, nothing is now to be seen but one continued solid plain; no rivers, no ships, no animals — all one indiscriminate plain of snow, the average depth of which (unless where accumulated by snow-storms or drifts) is about thirty inches. The dress of the Canadian now undergoes a complete change; the hat and *bonnet rouge* are thrown aside, and fur caps, fur cloaks, fur gloves, are put in requisition, with worsted hose over as well as under boots; those who take exercise on foot use snow-shoes or mocassins, which are made of a kind of net-work, fixed on a frame, and shaped like a boy's paper kite, about two feet long and eighteen inches broad; these cover so much of the surface of the snow that the wearer sinks but a very few inches, even when the snow is softest.

While the external weather is guarded against by the Canadians when out of doors, their habitations are also secured against the destructive power of intense cold. The walls of the houses are usually plastered on the outside, to preserve the stones from moisture, which, if acted on by the frost, is liable to split them; and the apartments are heated with stoves, which keep the temperature at a higher and more uniform rate than our English fireplaces will.

It must not, however, be supposed that the severity of the winter is any obstacle to out-door amusements, though it stops the navigation of the rivers and the cultivation of the soil. On the contrary, winter in Canada is the season of joy and pleasure; the cares of business are laid aside, and all classes and ranks indulge in a general carnival, as some amends for the toil undergone during the summer months. The sleigh or carriole of the humble *habitan*, or proud *seigneur*, is got ready all over the country; riding abroad on business or pleasure commences; visiting is in active play between friends, neighbours, and relatives; regular city and town balls, and irregular pic-nic country parties (where each guest brings his dish), are quite the rage; and, after dining, dancing and supping, and dancing again, the wintry morning dawn is often ushered in while the festive glee is yet at its height, and a violent snow-storm blockades the pic-nickers until broad daylight enables them to carriole towards home, over the ice-bound rivers and waves of snow, in all the enjoyment which the lightest-hearted beings can be supposed capable of, and considering the hardships and the inconveniences of the moment as a zest to the more staid and fashionable routs of Quebec and Montreal.

Travelling over frozen rivers or lakes is not unattended with danger, for it sometimes happens that the sleigh, its horses, and passengers, are engulfed and sucked beneath the ice. Fortunately, the thin or weak parts of the ice are in general of no great extent, and in most instances the passengers are able to leap from the vehicle to a part sufficiently firm to bear them. The Canadians have a curious contrivance for saving the horse on these occasions. A rope, with a running noose round the neck of the animal, is part of the furniture of every carriole. As soon as he sinks in the ice, the driver pulls this rope till he strangles him, or at least so far deprives him of sensation that he can no longer struggle. The poor horse is thus, by a severe process, prevented from doing that which would sink him deeper in the broken ice, and, when the passengers are safe, he is pulled upon the firm ice, the rope is loosened, respiration re-commences, and generally, in a few minutes, he is carrioling away again, as well as ever. This singular and almost incredible operation has been known to be performed two or three times a-day on the same horse; and the Americans say that, like Irishmen, the animals are so used to being hanged, that they think nothing about it.

The other British possessions in North America are Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton, and Newfoundland; the last, however, is an island in the Gulf of St Lawrence, and unsuitable for the settlement of emigrants. The whole lie within the 41st and 51st degrees of north latitude, and from about the 54th to the 68th degree of west longitude. These countries are not so warm or genial as Upper Canada; they are what Scotland is to England—more rugged and mountainous, and more unpromising in their outlines; but they are not less healthy and pleasant, and they possess the advantage of being the nearest colonial possessions of Great Britain, with the likelihood of remaining longest under its paternal government.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Nova Scotia is a peninsula connected with the mainland by a narrow isthmus. It measures about three

hundred miles in length, but is of unequal breadth; altogether, it contains 15,617 square miles, or nearly ten millions of acres. One-third of this superficies is occupied by lakes of various shapes and sizes, spread in all directions over the face of the peninsula. There is no part of the land thirty miles distant from navigable water, and in all parts there are fine streams and rivers. The southern margin of Nova Scotia is broken and rugged, with very prominent features, deep indents, and craggy islands. The features of the northern coast are soft and free from rocks. It is bounded on the north by part of the Gulf of St Lawrence, which separates it from Prince Edward Island; on the north-east by the Gut of Canso, which separates it from the island of Cape Breton; on the west by the Bay of Fundy, which separates it from New Brunswick; and on the south and south-east by the Atlantic Ocean. Nova Scotia was first settled by the French in 1603, and till 1712 it was alternately possessed by the French and English, when the latter became its permanent possessors.

The soil of a country of such extent and such varied features as Nova Scotia, must necessarily be various. If an imaginary line be drawn, dividing the province in the exact centre, from east to west, the north-western half will be found to contain by far the greatest portion of good land. On the side towards the Bay of Fundy, the soil is very rich and free from stones, and contains many thousand acres of dyked marsh land. This is alluvial land, and is made by the deposit of the tides, a sediment composed of the finer particles of soil, brought away by the rivers and torrents in their course to the Bay of Fundy, of putrescent matter, salt, &c. This land, called marsh, after it has attained a suitable height, is dyked, and the waters of the rivers excluded. Nothing can exceed its fertility. In many places, particularly about Windsor and Truro, it yields three tons of hay per acre, and has continued to do so without manure for fifty years past. There is a difference in its quality. Where the water which overflows it is not much enriched by a long course through the country, it is thin and of an inferior quality. The quantity of land enclosed in this manner is very great. At the head of the Bay of Fundy, there are seventy thousand acres in one connected body. There is one marsh in Cumberland containing nearly as much land as Romney Marsh in Kent, and of a quality vastly superior. There is something peculiarly agreeable to cattle in the grass growing upon these marshes, which has a wonderful tendency to fatten them. This land is found in great quantities in Cumberland, Macan, Napan, Londonderry, Truro, Onslow, Shubenacadie, Noel, Kennetcook, Newport, Windsor, Falmouth, Horton, Cornwallis, Granville, Annapolis, &c. The next best quality of land is called by a term peculiar to America, *intervale*, an alluvial soil made by the overflowing of large fresh-water brooks and rivers in the spring and autumn. The quantity of intervale is incalculable. It is to be met with in every part of the province, and is frequently found covered with a long natural grass, several feet in length, and is sometimes called wild meadow. The quality varies according to the size of the brook or river by which it is made, but in general it is very fertile and rich. The upland varies so much, that it is difficult to give a general description of it, but one tract deserves notice, from its extent and quality. It commences at Cape Blomidon in Cornwallis, and runs in one continuous ridge of high land for upwards of one hundred miles in the direction of Digby, and varies from three to seven miles in breadth. This is a very strong soil, and, with little exception, of a most excellent quality throughout, producing wheat and other grains in abundance.

The mineral products of this part of America are valuable; but none is so much worthy of consideration as coal, which is found at Pictou, and also at Sidney in Cape Breton; and there can be no doubt that the possession of this mineral will constitute one of the chief advantages of these provinces over every other. Limestone, freestone, and slate abound, of the best qualities, and there is plenty of fine clay for bricks. Iron ore has also been discovered in several places. The province has no animals of a troublesome nature. There are foxes, mice, squirrels, and rats. Among the feathered tribe there are a number of birds of the same kind as in Britain, including those called game in this country, all of which may be shot and used as food without any restriction. The only troublesome insects are the musquitoes and black flies, during hot weather. The rivers abound with the finest fish, among which are salmon and trout; and the shores yield large supplies of white and shell fish of different kinds.

The climate of Nova Scotia, like that of the adjoining districts, is salubrious and pleasant, but is in a peculiar degree exposed to the extreme of summer heat and winter cold. The ground is generally covered with snow from the 25th of December till the 5th of March, in which respect it nearly resembles Upper Canada; and during this period the farmers draw upon sledges their wood and poles from the forest, and carry their produce to market. It is difficult to say when spring commences, as it is rather late and irregular in its approaches. When vegetation does begin, it is very rapid, and two or three days make a perceptible change in the amount of the foliage. The summer may be said to be short and powerful, and during the time it lasts it exerts a much greater influence on vegetation than is observable in Britain. During this period, the inhabitants go very lightly dressed. Altogether, the climate of Nova Scotia is as good as that of Scotland, if not superior; nor are there any of those local or epidemical disorders with which other countries are frequently afflicted. Although the winters are intensely cold, they are not so disagreeable as the raw changeable winters of this country, nor nearly so fatal to human life. Besides, if the settlers work during three quarters of a year, they have ample provision for the remaining quarter, and are enabled to look forward to winter as their season of holiday enjoyment and relaxation. We have been informed by a Nova Scotian, that the improvement of the country is greatly retarded by the inactive habits of the settlers. The employment most popular is fishing, and agriculture remains so backward, that large importations of flour from the United States are constantly required, the payment of which drains the country of specie. The farmers, it seems, are in the habit of ceasing to exert themselves after attaining a moderate means of subsistence, and their sons spend time in riding and other frivolous pursuits, which should be devoted to the improvement of the paternal acres. These half-idle habits, and also an indulgence in spirituous liquors, are described as the true cause of the backward state of the colony as respects its territorial improvement.

Few parts of the world are so well watered as Nova Scotia. The rivers, brooks, springs, and streams of different kinds, are very numerous. Some of the lakes are extremely beautiful, containing, in general, one or more small islands, which are covered with a luxuriant growth of wood, and vary in every imaginable shape. The land in the neighbourhood of them is often undulated in the most romantic manner. These lakes will, in time, be of great service to the province; in several instances they nearly intersect the peninsula, offering scope for inland navigation. Already, a canal has been formed to a certain length.

The fruits produced in the country are numerous. Besides a great variety of wild fruits, gooseberries, strawberries, cherries, and raspberries, there are pears of various kinds, all the varieties of English plums, apples of a very superior quality, and some finer fruits. The other vegetable products are cucumbers, potatoes, artichokes, cauliflowers, cabbages, beans, and peas. Hops are an invariable and sure crop, and may be raised in great abundance. Pumpkins and Indian corn are cultivated to a great extent. Carrots, onions, parsnips, beet, celery, and most other kitchen herbs, are produced with ease. The grains cultivated by the far-

mers are summer and winter wheat, rye, buckwheat, barley, and oats. The natural forests are elm, cherry, white, black, yellow, and grey birch, red oak, beech, white and yellow pine, white, red, and black spruce, maples, &c.

Nova Scotia is divided into ten counties, including Cape Breton. The chief towns are Halifax, Truro, Londonderry, Onslow, &c. The capital, Halifax, is pleasantly situated on the slope of a rising ground, facing a fine spacious bay or natural harbour in front, on the eastern or more accessible side of the peninsula. It contains about 25,000 inhabitants, and is a central point for the foreign commerce and fishing-trade of the colony. Although possessing considerable wealth and trade, and the seat of an intelligent population, it is behind English towns of the same size and inferior capabilities. Here, as elsewhere in the colonies, a dependence on the arrangements of the home government deadens public spirit, and retards that natural tendency to advance which is observable in the towns of the United States.

Cape Breton is a romantic and mountainous island, lying close to Nova Scotia on the east, and only divided from it by a narrow strait, called the Gut of Canso. On the western side is the Gulf of St Lawrence. The island measures upwards of a hundred miles in length, by about sixty in breadth, including the numerous bays which indent the land. The natural productions of this island resemble those of Nova Scotia, though wheat is less generally grown, and oats and potatoes are raised to a considerable extent. There are large tracts of good land in the lower parts, and the expense of clearing it of timber is estimated at L.3 an acre. The minerals of the island are valuable. Cape Breton is politically annexed to Nova Scotia, of which it forms a county.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The province of New Brunswick, lying on the mainland of North America, contiguous to the United States and Lower Canada, consists of an extensive tract, comprising nearly 28,000 square miles, the greater part of which is still covered with dense forests. The land, however, is generally fertile, and excellently adapted for the settlement of emigrants. Besides being recommended by the fertility of its soil, it possesses innumerable rivers and streams in all directions, suitable for purposes of trade or manufacture. The climate is salubrious; the natural products numerous and valuable; wild animals are plentiful; and the rivers and lakes abound in fish; while along the coasts cod, haddocks, salmon, and other fish, are yielded in plenty to the enterprising fisherman. The resources of the province are thus inexhaustible, and, according to Macgregor, suitable to the maintenance of at least three millions of inhabitants. As yet, New Brunswick has a small population, and the principal settlements are along the River St John and its lakes. On the northern side of the entrance to this large river from the Bay of Fundy, stands the town of St John, the largest in the province, and the seat of an extensive trade. Frederickton, which claims to be the metropolis of the colony, is situated nearly ninety miles above St John's, on the same river; it is still a village in appearance. The chief buildings are the government house and a college.

The province of New Brunswick presents an extensive line of coast to the Gulf of St Lawrence on the east, while on the north it has part of Lower Canada, which separates it from the River St Lawrence upwards. Its latent capabilities for carrying on trade with the interior are thus very considerable. Miramichi is the chief river after the St John. It falls into the Gulf of St Lawrence, and is navigable for large vessels for about forty miles. Along its banks, here and there, are seen the huts and houses of settlers, who have not made great advances in cultivation. The cutting and export of timber form the main trade of the district. About twenty miles up, on the south bank, is seen the village of Chatham, where many of the ships load, and where several of the merchants are settled, who have erected stores and wharfs. Four miles farther up stands the village of Newcastle. The Miramichi River divides into two great branches. "On coming down the south-west branch (says Mr Macgregor), in the autumn of 1828, from where the road from the River St John joins the Miramichi, about eighty miles above Chatham, I was astonished at the unexpected progress made during so short a period in the cultivation of the soil. Near where the road parts off for Frederickton, an American, possessing a full share of the adventurous activity of the citizens of the United States, has established himself. He told me that when he planted himself there, seven years before, he was not worth a shilling. He has now (1829) more than three hundred acres under cultivation, an immense flock of sheep, horses, several yokes of oxen, milch cows, swine, and poultry. He has a large dwelling-house, conveniently furnished, in which he lives with his family and a numerous train of labourers, one or two other houses, a forge, with a powerful trip-hammer worked by water-power, fulling-mill, grist-mill, and two saw-mills—all turned by water. Near these, he showed me a building, which he said he erected for the double purpose of a school and chapel, the floor of which was laid, and on which benches were arranged so as to resemble the pit of one of our theatres. He said that all preachers who came in the way were welcome to the use of it. An English parson, a Catholic priest, a Presbyterian minister, or a Methodist preacher, should each, he said, get something to eat at his house, and have the use of the chapel, with equal satisfaction to him. He then showed me his barn, and in one place a heap, containing about ninety bushels of Indian corn, that grew on a spot (scarcely an acre) which he pointed out to me. This man could do little more than read and write. His manners were quite unpolished, but not rude; yet he had wonderful readiness of address, and, as far as related to his own pursuits, quick powers of invention and application. He raised large crops, ground his own corn, manufactured the flax he cultivated and the wool of his sheep into coarse cloths; sold the provisions which his farm produced, and rum and British goods, to the lumberers; kept a tavern; employed lumberers in the woods, and received also timber in payment for whatever he sold. He made the axes and other tools required by the lumberers at his forge; he ate, gambled, and associated with his own labourers, and with the lumberers, and all others, who made his house a kind of rallying point. He appeared, however, to be a sober man, and a person who had in view an object of gain in every thing he engaged in. He talked much in praise of the rich interior country, and how rapidly it would be settled and cultivated, if possessed by the Americans."

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

This rich and productive island is situated in the Gulf of St Lawrence, betwixt Cape Breton on the east and New Brunswick on the west, and is separated from Nova Scotia on the south, by a strait of about nine miles in breadth. It measures 140 miles in length, and is 34 at its greatest breadth. The general appearance of this island from the sea is level, but, on landing, the scenery is varied with gentle undulations. It abounds with streams and lakes, and in many places it is indented with bays, no part being more than eight miles from the sea. The soil is in general fertile, yielding good crops of wheat and other grains; and parsnips, turnips, carrots, potatoes, and almost all the common culinary vegetables, succeed well. This island has been recommended to such emigrants as possess a knowledge of agriculture with that of the curing of fish. The climate of Prince Edward Island is in some respects similar to that of the neighbouring countries. The winter is said to be shorter than in Lower Canada, and the atmosphere is noted for being free of fogs. Agricultural operations commence about the beginning of May, and the harvest is generally over by the end of October. The chief disadvantage this colony labours under, and which is equally applicable to the

others near it, is the great length of the winter, which obliges the farmer to lay up a very large stock of hay for supporting his live-stock. The sudden manner, also, in which spring comes on, abridges the period for sowing and planting, thus leaving the agriculturist comparatively idle at one season, and obliging him to work severely at another. The inhabitants are chiefly from Great Britain and Ireland, with a few Dutch and Germans. Mr Macgregor characterises them as hospitable, kind, obliging, and as, generally speaking, a moral people. The island is governed by a lieutenant-governor, council, and house of assembly consisting of eighteen members, who are elected by the people. Charlotte Town, the capital, is situated on the north bank of the River Hillsborough, on the east side of the island. The town stands on ground which rises in gentle heights from the banks of the river, and its harbour is considered one of the best in the Gulf of St Lawrence. A small group of islands called the Magdalens, have been recently annexed to Prince Edward Island, chiefly as fishing establishments.

Little requires to be said respecting the trade of the Canadas, or of British America generally. To Halifax, Quebec, St John's, and other ports, shipments of English manufactured goods and foreign produce are regularly made, chiefly in spring and autumn, and the produce returned is wood, fish, oil, potashes, and some other raw materials, including some wheat and flour. The total of our exports annually to British America, was, in 1838, under L.2,000,000, while the military and civil expenditure incurred by the mother country in 1836, was L.382,735, thus showing that, as regards commerce, Britain loses a considerable sum yearly by maintaining these colonies. British America is highly favoured by being permitted to send its produce at comparatively low duties to the home country; but from lack of capital or enterprise, this does not appear to have an important effect on the prosperity of the colonies. The duty, for example, on wheat imported into this country from Canada and other British possessions in North America, is five shillings a-quarter when the average price of wheat in this country is less than sixty-seven shillings a-quarter, and 6d. a-quarter when it is above that price. The duty on flour is in the same proportion. These duties present no obstacle to the importation of any quantity which the Canadians can spare for export; yet how little Canadian corn enters British ports!

PERSONS WHO OUGHT TO EMIGRATE.

"The persons who may be inclined to emigrate to Upper Canada," says Howison, "are of three different descriptions, namely, the poor peasant or day-labourer; the man of small income and increasing family; the man possessing some capital, and wishing to employ it to advantage. Persons of the first class never would repent if they emigrated to Upper Canada, for they could hardly fail to improve their circumstances and condition. The poorest individual, if he acts prudently and is industrious, and has a common share of good fortune, will be able to acquire an independence in the space of four or five years. He will then have plenty to eat and drink, a warm house to reside in, and no taxes to pay; and this state of things surely forms a delightful contrast with those hardships and privations which are at present the lot of the labouring population of Great Britain.

It is evident that some descriptions of emigrants will succeed better in Upper Canada than others. Those who have been accustomed to a country life and to country labour, are of course more fitted to cultivate land, and endure the hardships at first attendant upon a residence in the woods, than artisans or manufacturers, whose constitutions and habits of life are somewhat unfavourable to the successful pursuit of agriculture. But every individual, who to youth and health joins perseverance and industry, will eventually prosper. Mechanics cannot fail to do well in Upper Canada; for when not employed in clearing lands, they will find it easy to gain a little money by working at their professions; and they likewise have the advantage of being able to improve their dwelling-houses, and repair their farming-utensils, at no expense. Weavers, being ignorant of country affairs, and unaccustomed to bodily exertion, make but indifferent settlers at first, and their trade is of no use to them whatever in the woods. Married persons are always more comfortable, and succeed sooner, in Canada, than single men; for a wife and family, so far from being a burden there, always prove sources of wealth. The wife of a new settler has many domestic duties to perform; and children, if at all grown up, are useful in various ways."

Every candid traveller in Canada concurs in these views; and it may be observed, that they are equally applicable to the other districts noticed in this sheet. "Of this, I think," says Fergusson, "there can be no doubt, that either the moderate capitalist, or the frugal, sober, and industrious labourer or artisan, cannot fail of success. *Fortunes* will not be rapidly or even readily acquired; but it must be the settler's own fault if he does not enjoy, in large abundance, every solid comfort and enjoyment of life, and rear around his table even a *forest* of 'olive plants,' without one anxious thought regarding their future destination or provision."

PASSAGE.

There are two ways of proceeding to Canada—by the St Lawrence, Quebec, and Montreal; and by New York and the Erie Canal. The passage by the St Lawrence is tedious and troublesome, and we recommend all who can conveniently do so to take shipping direct to New York; from that city they will at once go on by a steam-boat on the Hudson River to Albany, and from Albany be conveyed in a track-boat on the Erie Canal to Lake Erie, where they will find steamboats ready to convey them in all directions. For those who prefer the passage by Quebec, the following information is given by an official pamphlet:—"Passages to Quebec may either be engaged inclusive of provisions, or exclusive of provisions, in which case the shipowner finds nothing but water, fuel, and bedplaces, without bedding. Children under fourteen years of age are charged one-half, and under seven years of age one-third, of the full price; and for children under twelve months old no charge is made. Upon these conditions the price of passage from London, or from places on the east coast of Great Britain, has generally been L.6, with provisions, or L.3 without. From Liverpool, Greenock, and the principal ports of Ireland, as the chances of delay are fewer, the charge is somewhat lower [we would here strongly advise emigrants to sail, if possible, from a port on the west coast, as being a great saving of time, trouble, and expense]; this year the charge will probably be from L.2 to L.2, 10s. without provisions, or from L.4 to L.5 including provisions. [Emigrants intending to settle in New Brunswick, Cape Breton, or Prince Edward Island, will generally obtain a passage in the vessels bound for Canada; and ships for Halifax or Pictou in Nova Scotia are constantly sailing from the British ports.] In ships sailing from Scotland or Ireland, it has mostly been the custom for passengers to find their own provisions; but this practice has not been so general in London, and some shipowners, sensible of the dangerous mistakes which may be made in this matter through ignorance, are very averse to receive passengers who will not agree to be victualled by the ship. Those who do resolve to supply their own provisions should at least be careful not to lay in an insufficient stock; fifty days is the shortest period for which it is safe to provide, and, from London, the passage is sometimes prolonged to seventy-five days. Having wound up his affairs in this country, and otherwise prepared himself and family for proceeding to the land of their adoption, it is recommended that the emigrant

should take with him a box of tools, whether he have been taught to use them or not. The tools should consist of a common axe, handsaw, three augurs of different sizes, pick-axe, spade, two gimlets, a hammer, iron wedge, three hoes; a kettle, frying-pan, an iron pot, nails, and a small portable handmill for grinding corn: a gun and fishing-nets will be of great service, if he has means to purchase them. He should also have good warm frieze coats and jackets, and worsted stockings and mittens for the winter; also strong hide leather shoes, without iron heels, as iron is not required in soft roads, and is apt to attract the frost, and make the feet colder; linen trousers and jacket for the summer, as many cotton shirts as he can afford to take out (linen being dear in these countries, and more apt to rot with perspiration in summer), and a short flannel shirt, to be worn next the skin, both in summer and winter. Without caution as to clothing, the settler has a chance of being attacked with ague, which is the only ailment to be dreaded. He should also provide himself with a small stock of simple medicines, to preserve the bowels in regularity. Every one ought to take a dose of medicine on landing. No bulky articles or furniture of any kind should be taken; but an emigrant should take all his mattresses and bedding, and as many good blankets as possible; also a warm fur cap. Straw hats for summer can be had at a cheap rate in the colonies. Every thing should be packed in substantial handy trunks. Plain furniture can be bought at a cheap rate in the colony, or the emigrant can perhaps manage to make some articles for his new household. The bark of the bass-tree, woven or laced across his bedstead, will support a mattress, and that mattress need consist of nothing more expensive than the boughs of the spruce-fir, or dry beech leaves; a buffalo skin will answer for quilt and blankets.

Scotch families usually and very judiciously provide themselves with a sufficient quantity of oatmeal, eggs well packed, some tea and sugar, besides other provisions. A few cooking utensils are indispensable; and tin dishes, for eating out of when the sea is running high and the vessel heaving, would be an advantage. Milk boiled with loaf-sugar, in the proportion of one pound of sugar to a quart of milk, and bottled when cool, will keep sweet all the voyage.

The following we quote from the letter of a Scotch emigrant:—"Upon the voyage out, your provision store should consist mostly of oatmeal, plenty of potatoes, eggs, hams; a good supply of porter and ale you will find to be very useful. Tea will not be much used; coffee will. Bring along with you some rice, with every other article to make a rice pudding; and particularly bring plenty of red herrings; you will find these very useful indeed; a few dried fruits, &c. Be sure to bring provisions for three months at least; and if you do not require them all on the voyage, you will find them of great use to you afterwards."

A Scotch emigrant in Upper Canada, in a letter published in the Counsel for Emigrants, gives the following list of provisions, to be taken to sea for four persons as steerage passengers:—"16 or 18 pecks of potatoes in a barrel with a lock on it; 40 lbs. of good beef, well salted in brine; 16 lbs. of butter; 3 lbs. of coffee; 3 or 4 dozen *old* bottled beer, which has less chance of flying than if new; some dozens of eggs packed in salt; half a dozen cod-fish, cut in pieces for boiling; some dozens of Buckie haddocks, well dried for keeping. Milk does not keep well; no sweetmeats are relished at sea. A few oranges, which at times taste very pleasant to the parched palate; some cheese; 8 lbs. of treacle in a flagon; 1 stone of barley; a good deal of pepper and mustard; plenty of carrots, turnips, and onions, for broth—they will keep all the voyage; 28 lbs. of fine ship bread; 3 or 10 quartern loaves, baked hard; 1 boll of oatmeal, 6 pecks baked into bannocks and cakes, very well fired, and flat for packing; some white puddings; some suet for dumplings; a few candles, and a white-iron lantern with horn; 1 bottle of vinegar, to use in water on shipboard; 1 bottle of castor-oil; 2 or 3 dozens of colocynth and rhubarb pills; 6 lbs. of epsom salts, and 1 lb. of senna—these medicines are very dear here; tin pan to fit the stove of the ship, and it is convenient to have one for hooking on the ribs of the grate when the top of the fire is occupied; kettle for making coffee, &c. Use no crockery, but instead, jugs and bowls of tin; broth pot, frying-pan, and tin kettle."

The best months for leaving England are certainly March and April. The names of the vessels to sail are generally advertised in the newspapers. The conveyance of passengers to the British possessions in North America is regulated by an act of Parliament (9 Geo. IV. cap. 21), of which the following are the principal provisions:—Ships are not allowed to carry passengers to these colonies unless they be of the height of five feet and a half between decks, and they must not carry more than three passengers for every four tons of the registered burden; there must be on board at least fifty gallons of pure water, and fifty pounds of bread, biscuit, oatmeal, or bread-stuff, for each passenger. Masters of vessels who land passengers, unless with their own consent, at a place different from that originally agreed upon, are subject to a penalty of L.20, recoverable by summary process before two justices of the peace in any of the North American colonies. The enforcement of this law rests chiefly with the officers of her Majesty's customs; and persons having complaints to make of its infraction, should address themselves to the nearest customhouse.

If the emigrant prefers taking a passage to New York, he should make particular inquiry respecting the vessel he is to sail in, as the above law does not apply to ships carrying passengers to the United States. We know of a young man with a small capital, who sailed from a port in the east coast of Scotland for New York, in a vessel which was afterwards discovered to be not seaworthy. After beating about for three or four weeks in the Atlantic, the vessel was driven through the Irish channel, and had to put into the Cove of Cork to undergo repairs. The passengers were obliged to work in watches at the pumps, and six weeks were expended before the vessel really proceeded on her voyage, besides having to purchase a new stock of provisions. To avoid a similar disaster, we would advise the intending emigrant to inquire into the character of the vessel at the office of the company with whom she is insured, and in making any agreement with the captain, to be particular in having it in writing. He should stipulate for the use of all conveniences in the ship; and also not to be obliged to land for at least twenty-four hours after getting into port.

LANDING.

Previous to disembarkation, arrange your baggage in a small compass, the fewer packages the better, but have them well secured—old dirty clothing, large boxes, and other useless articles, are not worth the carriage. If you have any provisions left, such as oatmeal, potatoes, &c., you can sell them at Quebec at a profit, and avoid the expense of transport, and you can purchase bakers' bread, butter, tea, sugar, and other necessaries more suited for your journey. All sorts of provisions may be bought cheaper, and generally of a better quality, in Montreal and Upper Canada, than at Quebec. Dress yourself in light clean clothing. Females frequently bring on sickness by being too warmly clothed. Cut your hair short, and wash daily and thoroughly. Avoid drinking ardent spirits of any kind, and, when heated, do not drink cold water. Eat moderately of watery food. Avoid night dews. By attending to the preceding directions, sickness will be prevented, with other serious inconveniences. When every thing is ready for disembarkation, and if the ship is lying at anchor in the river, take care in passing from the ship to the boat; avoid all haste, and see that your baggage is in the same conveyance with yourself, or left under the charge of some friend, with your name on it. If the ship hauls to the wharf to disembark, do not be in a hurry, but await the proper time of tide, when the

ship's deck will be on a line with the quay or wharf. Passengers are entitled by law to the privilege of remaining on board ship forty-eight hours after arrival; and it is unlawful for the captain to deprive his passengers of any of their usual accommodations for cooking or otherwise; you may therefore avoid the expense of lodgings, and make all your arrangements for prosecuting your journey. If, previous to disembarkation, sickness should overtake you, proceed immediately, or be removed, to the Emigrant Hospital, in St John's Suburbs, where you will be taken care of, and provided with every thing needful until restored to health. Medicine and medical advice can also be had at the Dispensary attached to the Quebec Charitable Emigrant Society. This society will grant relief to all destitute emigrants. In Montreal there is a similar institution for the relief of emigrants. It is particularly recommended to emigrants not to loiter their valuable time at the port of landing, but to proceed to obtain settlement or employment. Many emigrants will find employment in the city of Quebec and its vicinity, as also in and about Montreal. Single men, in particular, are advised to embrace offers of this kind; but emigrants with large families had better proceed without delay to Upper Canada, as hereafter directed, or to situations in Lower Canada, particularly the eastern townships, and if they have sons and daughters grown up, they will find a sure demand for their services. Artificers and mechanics of all denominations, and farming labourers, if sober and industrious, may be sure of doing well. Blacksmiths, particularly those acquainted with steam-engine work, also good millwrights and sawyers by machinery, are much wanted in the Canadas. The current rate of wages lately paid to carpenters, masons, and other artificers, was from 3s. 6d. to 6s. or 7s. per day, according to circumstances; farm-labourers were paid at a lower rate. There is no demand for persons skilled in any of the ornamental professions, or for the preparation of articles such as are usually imported from England. A great number of labourers are usually employed on board ships, and about timber-yards, at Quebec and Montreal, who get from 3s. to 4s. 6d. a-day, and board generally found. The extravagant habits engendered in such occupations render it decidedly preferable for the labouring emigrant to proceed immediately to the country. Emigrants with families, and who are possessed of from L.20 to L.25, are advised to push immediately into the woods, in the vicinity of old settlements, where they can obtain provisions for their spare labour. The most vexing circumstance connected with money matters, is that the currency of the whole of British America is different from that which prevails in the United Kingdom; in other words, a shilling in England is different from a shilling in Canada. The money of Canada is locally of higher nominal value than what we understand by the term *sterling*, and is called Halifax currency. The difference varies; but it may be stated in general terms, that an English sovereign is reckoned to be worth 24s. or 24s. 6d. currency; or an English shilling is equal to about 1s. 2¼d. or 1s. 3d. currency. If you take English money to Canada, you will receive these high prices for it; but if you wish to turn currency into sterling, for the purpose of sending it home, you will incur a corresponding loss. All wages are, of course, reckoned in currency; therefore, when it is said you will receive 4s. a-day of wages, the actual value of this 4s. is only 3s. sterling. This distinction between currency and sterling will soon be learned, and is on the whole of less consequence than the practice of paying wages in goods. We have heard very serious complaints on this subject. From all we can learn, it is not uncommon for an employer to pay his workmen by an order for goods on a store, corresponding to the amount bargained for; and such is the high price at which articles are sold, that sometimes a workman, instead of getting 4s. a-day, does not in reality get more goods than he could buy for 1s. 6d. in England. Thus an apparently high wage dwindles down to a trifle. Perhaps such practices are not resorted to by respectable employers, or may only prevail in parts of the country where a circulating medium is scarce; but we have considered it proper to mention the circumstance, in order to put emigrants on their guard. Always ascertain whether you are to be paid in cash or in goods, and act accordingly.

Having arranged all your business at Quebec, you will proceed without loss of time to Montreal, by steam-boat, on your route to Upper Canada. Two steam-boats ply (or lately plied) to Montreal, 180 miles up the St Lawrence, which is performed in from 24 to 30 hours. Take care not to engage a passage in any vessel from which you and your family will be obliged occasionally to come out and walk; we have heard of disgraceful instances of this kind of cruelty. The fares on board the steam-boats were lately as follow (but all may now be a little altered):—Deck passengers, adults, 7s. 6d. each; children under twelve years of age, half-price; and under seven, one-third. The routes and fares to the principal places were lately as follow:—

Quebec to Montreal, by steam-boats, - -	7s. 6d.
Montreal to Prescot, by Durham boats, -	6s. 3d.
Prescot to Kingston, by steam, - - -	5s. 0d.
Ditto to Coburgh, or Port Hope, - - -	7s. 6d.
Prescot to Toronto, capital of Upper Canada, Hamilton, and Niagara, - - - -	10s. 0d.

From Niagara you proceed by the Welland Canal to Fort Erie, opposite Buffalo on Lake Erie, where steam-boats, or sailing schooners, will convey those destined to Port Talbot, or other parts of the London district, or vicinity of Lake St Clair. Persons going to settle on the lands of the Canada Company will proceed to York or Burlington Bay, head of Lake Ontario.

At most of the preceding towns and landing-places you will find government agents. If you are bound to Perth, or New Lanark, or the vicinity, disembark at Prescot; or you may go by Bytown on the Ottawa.

If for the thriving settlements in the Newcastle district, disembark at Coburgh or Port Hope, on Lake Ontario. Those going to the townships of Seymour may proceed from Kingston, by the beautiful Bay of Quinté, to the mouth of the Trent River, from whence a road, distance 18 miles, brings you to Seymour. If proceeding to the Home or Western districts, disembark at Toronto, the capital of Upper Canada. Emigrants going any where beyond Toronto, will in general find it their interest to make this their route. If for the London district, proceed by the Niagara frontier to Lake Erie and the Talbot Settlement. If for Bytown, Grenville, Hull, Horton, or other situations on the Ottawa River, proceed from Montreal and Lachine by the usual conveyances. Such are the directions that were a short time since suitable; but as there are continual changes, emigrants may find it necessary, on their arrival, to act more by local information than any thing we can say on the subject.

We think it important to mention, for the benefit of the poorer class of emigrants, that there has existed for some years in Montreal a benevolent society of great local importance, called the Canada Emigration Association. This body of individuals, actuated by humane motives, and desirous of forwarding labourers to places where their services are required, affords ready assistance to poor emigrants on their arrival at Montreal. It appears that, from the 11th of June 1840 to the close of the navigation by frost a few months later, the society relieved 322 natives of England, 8778 natives of Ireland, 397 natives of Scotland, and 10 from Germany; total, 9507. Of this number, 201 were above sixty years of age, and 587 were infants. The relief consisted in furnishing provisions and a humble kind of lodging in sheds, also medical attendance, and payment of passage of individuals and families to places in the interior. The emigrants were greatly benefited by being sent off without loss of time, as they were thereby not only saved from the danger to their health and morals which would have been incurred by remaining any length of time idle in a large city, but their time was

economised, which is the most important consideration of all, when the necessity of making preparations for the rigours of a Canadian winter is considered. Such was the desire of the society's committee to expedite emigrants, that in some instances they were sent off from Montreal, and actually on their route to Upper Canada, within thirty-six hours of their arrival in Quebec, and in all instances, delay was as far as possible avoided.

The account of the society's proceedings from which we draw these particulars, proceeds as follows :—"As this report is chiefly intended for circulation in Britain, it may be proper to add, for the encouragement of such as may intend to emigrate to Canada, that the political excitement in this country is completely allayed, and consequently the troubles have ceased; that many public works are now going on, where labourers are constantly wanted, and fair wages, say about 3s. per day, are given; that the charge for passage, not only to Quebec, but from Quebec to Montreal, and from Montreal to Kingston and other places, is moderate, and likely, from the competition of rival steam-boat and forwarding companies, to be unusually low in 1841; and that, owing to the very abundant crops of 1840, provisions of all kinds are and will be very cheap; also that many descriptions of tradesmen, more especially coopers, bricklayers, carpenters, masons, as well as farm-servants, are in great demand."

Such is the demand for labourers and settlers, that the society, in connexion with branch societies at home, designs to extend its assistance, to the effect of finding permanent employment or locations of land. "To such emigrants with families," says the report, "as shall come out under the auspices or with the special recommendation of the societies at home, it is proposed to give fifty acres each, upon condition of actual settlement and clearing a space of ten acres of the front of their locations, erecting a dwelling-house, &c., for themselves, and clearing one-half of that portion of the road lying in front of the lot of which their grant forms a part. The use and possession of this land will be secured to them immediately; and after three years' actual residence, and the performance of the conditions above specified, a deed in fee simple, without charge, will be given to them.

For the convenience of emigrants generally, an office will be opened in Toronto for the registration of all lands possessed by private individuals, with descriptions of the lots, concessions, townships, districts, &c., classifying the same under the several heads of lands for sale, for lease, or for free settlement under the direction of this association; with every information connected therewith—their local peculiarities, situation in relation to roads, mills, markets, &c.—the nature of the adjacent settlements—the countries from which the settlers therein came—together with every matter, the previous knowledge of which may tend to save the applicant the labour and time of personal inspection. It is further proposed, that full abstracts of all the above matter should be placed in the hands of the different societies in Great Britain, in order that even there some reasonably accurate information might be obtained before crossing the Atlantic.

The executive government," continues the report, "is at present actively at work for the good of those under its protection, especially in the forming of roads and rendering some of the most fertile tracts in the country accessible for settlement. It is making preparations on a grand scale for those who choose to avail themselves of its paternal aid. But great as is its power, and wise and benevolent as they may be who wield it, there is still a vast amount of good connected with the colonisation of this country, which circumstances have rendered it impossible for the local government to perform. It is precisely that deficiency which it is in the power of the Emigration Association to supply.

An evil attendant upon the colonisation of Canada in times past, is industriously represented as still existing in its aggravated forms, by those who would deter settlers from selecting this province as their home. It is urged that nearly all the lands within the settled precincts of the province have passed into the hands of private individuals; and that the new emigrant must necessarily go far into the depths of the forest, remote from the peopled settlements, where, whatever may be the excellence of his land, he will be remote from markets, mills, roads, or the means of procuring labour or supplies, during the first years of his residence.

These difficulties have existed to a great and disheartening extent, sometimes so as to induce a settler to abandon his possessions. It is true, also, that a great proportion of the land, especially in the older surveyed townships, comprehending the choicest locations in the neighbourhood of roads and navigable waters, now belongs to private individuals; and it is this very fact that enables the association to be of the most essential service. These tracts are at present unproductive to the owner, and if retained in their wild state, with the view to their owners' obtaining higher prices, would interpose such a serious obstacle to the settlement of the country, as might well justify the legislature in imposing a tax upon lands kept unimproved from so selfish and narrow a policy. The association are happy in knowing, for many of such proprietors are among its most zealous members, that such lands generally remain in their profitless fertility, only because the hand of man is wanting to turn them into productive cornfields and animated pastures; and that, if their fellow-countrymen were here to make use of them, they would be happy in giving to them portions equal to their utmost wants, without money and without price; yes, and every other aid which could tend to their future advantage. And this, too, without any affectation of generosity on the part of the members of the association; for they are well aware that, by the settlement and cultivation of a portion of their lands, the adjoining part will become better worth the purchasing by future emigrants, or by the settler himself, when he shall have become prosperous.

This system of free grants of portions of private properties scattered over the whole province, and therefore presenting endless choice of locality, in respect to previous settlement of friends, &c., to such persons as have no money to pay, or having small means, might, more beneficially to themselves and the country, apply them to accelerate the improvement of the land, forms the principal feature in the scheme of the association, by which they hope to be useful to their countrymen. But it is only one: there are cases where not only the poor, but even the comparatively affluent settler, has had to encounter difficulties which might well dishearten him, and even drive him to abandon his enterprise. Many members of this association have had practical knowledge of the evils which they are now intent upon averting from others; and are desirous of giving their experience without its price. The establishment of their Registry-Office for the sale of lands not devoted to the above-stated object, and for supplying accurate information, statistical and otherwise, will be found of great use to such as are beyond the necessity of receiving any other kind of assistance; while, in locating those who shall be disposed to accept of their land, they will carefully avoid the evil before mentioned, of sending them where they will be isolated and solitary, but under such an arrangement as will ensure to each the comforts of society while he is engaged in the first, and in all cases the most discouraging task he has to encounter—subduing the forest."*

We may learn from these extracts that the Canadians are now fully alive to the necessity of procuring a steady supply of labourers as well as settlers to clear the grounds, by which alone the country can be expected to develop its great resources.

* Emigrants, on arrival, will find no difficulty in discovering the names and places of abode of the agents of the Immigration Society: they are settled in most towns of the province, and we cannot doubt that they will give friendly advice and assistance to all who present themselves.

SALE OF LANDS.—SETTLEMENT.

The mode of selling crown lands in the British North American possessions is far from satisfactory, the principle still pursued being to have periodical auctions of land at upset prices, by which the emigrant has in the first place to wait for the occurrence of the sale, and after all, when it takes place, he perhaps finds himself outbidden in price. This is a most serious evil, which government appears to be in no haste to remedy. On applying for information on the subject at the Colonial Office (December 1840), the following has been handed to us, and it may therefore be considered authoritative:—

"The regulations for the sale of crown lands in Canada, Nova Scotia, &c., are as follows:—In Lower Canada the public lands are henceforward to be sold at a fixed price. In the country of Ottawa, and in the country on the south bank of the St Lawrence as far as the Kemaba road, the price is for the present fixed at six shillings per acre, and for the remainder of the province at four shillings. In Upper Canada, lands continue to be sold by public auction, at an upset price to be fixed from time to time by the lieutenant-governor in council. This price varies according to the locality; but the average price of land in 1836, 1837, and 1838, was eight shillings per acre. In Nova Scotia, lands are sold the same as in Upper Canada, the price being at the discretion of the lieutenant-governor in council; but by a local act, it is in no case to be less than one shilling per acre. In New Brunswick the upset price is fixed at two shillings and sixpence per acre."

Such being the very unsatisfactory manner in which crown lands are disposed of in Canada and other parts of British America, we strongly recommend emigrants with only a small capital, either to employ themselves as servants till a sale occurs, or till they can hear of a cheap and commodious lot. At all times there are small farms, partially cleared, for sale, and in many instances these are preferable to crown uncleared lands. In making a selection and purchase, keep in mind the following points:—See that there is a tolerable road to the property; that it is not too far distant from a town; that it is not environed with clergy-reserve lands, which, being uncleared and without roads, except you assist to make them, are a nuisance; that you will have decent neighbours (English or Scotch, if possible); and that the district possesses a place of public worship, and school, or will shortly have them. Supposing you discover a place possessing a fair share of these recommendations, we advise you, above all things, not to buy it partly on credit, from a land-dealer or general possessor of property. Either do not purchase it at all, or pay for it at once, and get a good title to the property. If you allow a part of the price to remain unpaid, with the hope of liquidating your debt in the space of a year or two, you may almost surely rely on being turned out when the instalments come due, thus losing all you have paid, and all the labour you have expended. There are many landowners in Canada who make a regular trade of getting emigrants into their power in this manner, and turning them adrift after completely ruining them. Our next advice is one equally important—never, on any account whatever, take credit at a store. To do so, is the almost certain commencement of ruin. The store-keepers generally are glad to give credit to poor landowners; for, by a peculiar law of the country, they can attach the land for the amount of their claim, no matter how small it be; and as *cash* may not at a moment's notice be easily obtained, the settler may be speedily and in form of law stripped of all he possesses, and the store-keeper become the owner of his little hard-won territory. So dreadful is the effect of getting into debt in Canada, that we have heard of cases in which the families of poor but shrewd settlers have lived during winter on little more than a few potatoes per day, rather than incur a debt of a few shillings to the next store-keeper.

The difficulties at first in fixing and settling upon a farm are very great—much greater than one in ten has any idea of; but by prudent and diligent management, no one need despair, and in the end a state of comfort will unquestionably be attained. Having acquired a property, the first thing you have to do is to select a favourable spot for your log-house, which should be near a spring of water or running stream, and where a *cellar to keep your potatoes in winter can be dug under the house.* Carefully clear the timber and brush to a distance from your dwelling and out-buildings, or, in the event of fire in the woods, great risk is incurred of their being destroyed. If you proceed to build houses and clear lands on a large scale on first arrival, it rarely succeeds so well; for the price of labour is so high, and the difficulty of getting persons to work, added to the great expense of providing food for increased numbers, until produced from your own land, ought in every instance to induce caution in laying out money; but a crop of potatoes and fodder for a cow is the first object, and this may be accomplished the first year, if you arrive early. The second you will be enabled to supply your family with the necessaries of life from your own grounds; and the third year you may find yourself possessed of a yoke of oxen, a cow or two, and a year-old calf, a couple of pigs, poultry, &c., abundance of provisions for your family, and fodder for your cattle. The Irish and Scotch peasantry know well how to value the economy of a milch cow; every new settler ought to strive to obtain one as soon as possible, taking care to provide a sufficiency of fodder for the long winter. Cattle require a little salt in the Canadas. It is not considered necessary to go farther into the details of the first settlement, as on all these points you will be guided by your own observations on the spot, and the advice you will get from the local agents and superintendants.

ACCOUNTS GIVEN OF THESE COUNTRIES BY SETTLERS.

We quote the following letter from Upper Canada, from the United Service Journal:—

"Dear ——, You wish me to give you some account of Canada, and I will endeavour to do so; and if the little that I have to say on the subject does not tend to instruct, it will, I hope, serve to amuse you, and enable you to form correct ideas of this remote but interesting corner of the world. I may not possess extensive information upon every subject connected with Canadian affairs, nor do I wish to tire you with lengthened or studied details. Having resided many years in Upper Canada, and circumstances having obliged me to consider it my adopted country and home, I have grown imperceptibly attached to the rough life of a woodsman; but I will endeavour to divest myself of prejudice, and hope to be able to present you with a plain unembellished account.

Emigrants coming to Canada generally entertain very erroneous opinions; their information having been collected from the writings of people who have little knowledge of the country, or are governed by interested motives: they come full of romantic whimsical notions, but perfectly ignorant of the country they are about to inhabit, and of the trials that await them. On their arrival, they ought to abstain from eating new potatoes, green peas, unripe fruit, &c., or use them in moderation; for many, on their first arrival, are afflicted with dysentery, which, I am confident, is occasioned by the greediness with which they devour vegetables of every kind, after being confined for a few weeks to the use of salt provisions. Fever and ague are common complaints all over America, but seldom prove fatal. They generally make their appearance in new settlements, in four or five years after we have commenced clearing land, rage for one or two years, and then almost wholly disappear. They are probably to be attributed to the foul vapours arising from the decayed stumps and roots of trees and other vegetable substances. Intermittent and other fevers are common in the neighbourhood of large marshes

and stagnant ponds. Emigrants ought to avoid such places.

About sixteen years ago, a number of families came from Glasgow and its neighbourhood. They were assisted by government, and settled in the district of Bathurst. They were moral and industrious, and an acquisition to the country; but such was the bad quality of the land selected for them, that many of them, after struggling for years, abandoned their farms, and removed to other places. Clearing land is laborious work. The first thing we do is to underbrush it; that is, cut the young trees and bushes close to the ground, and put them together in large heaps. The best time for underbrushing is when the leaves are on, or before the snow falls; for when the snow is on the ground, we cannot conveniently cut the bushes low; we then cut the trees down; the small branches are thrown upon the brush heaps, and the trunks are cut into logs of about twelve feet each; good straight logs of oak, ash, cedar, and some other kinds, are reserved to be converted into rails. The cutting of the timber is called chopping, and is mostly performed in the winter, as we have then most leisure: when the brush heaps are sufficiently dry, they are set on fire. Logging next commences.

Wolves are numerous, and are very destructive to sheep and occasionally to young cattle. I have heard of their attacking travellers; but upon inquiring into these reports, have always found them mere fabrications, though I know two instances when travellers on horseback have seen wolves in the middle of the road, and after trying in vain to frighten them away, or urge their horses forward, have been obliged to turn back. I have met them when travelling alone and unarmed through the woods, but never was even menaced by them; in winter, when oppressed with hunger, they are most dangerous. The wild-cat, or cat-a-mount, in figure bears a strong resemblance to the domestic cat, except in its tail, which is not above two inches in length, and tipped with black, as are also the ears; it is of the same colour as the wolf, and appears to be quite as large and powerful, though shorter in the legs: they climb to the tops of the tallest trees with facility, and are said to be very fierce; they destroy sheep and other domestic animals. Bears are also numerous: they subsist principally on nuts and roots, and occasionally commit great depredation in the fields of Indian corn; they also walk off with pigs, sheep, and calves, when they get a chance. We have also beavers, racoons, martens, and many other animals. Our woods abound with deer, hares, partridges, pigeons, and many other kinds of game. There are a great variety of ducks in our rivers and marshes; and here, in the western district, we have wild turkeys and quails; our rivers and lakes are equally well supplied with fish."

This letter goes on to describe a number of snakes which are found in Canada, such as the water-snakes, which some suppose to be venomous; two kinds of rattlesnakes, which are both very dangerous; there are also garter snakes, copper-head snakes, and blowing adders. These reptiles are only to be found in particular districts, and with common precautions little danger may be expected from them.

The following letters are from a gentleman who settled near the township of Yorra, about a hundred miles west from Toronto. He says—"I am installed in about 800 acres of clergy reserves and Canada Company's lands contiguous, and am in treaty for 800 more from private individuals, which, one with another, will stand me in fifteen shillings currency per acre. The land, besides being bounded by the River Thames, is watered at every half mile by streams running into it, the springs giving the purest water; the land slopes down to the south, and altogether is calculated to create satisfaction. I have set people to work, to chop, clear, burn, and fit the land in every respect for sowing, for eleven dollars an acre, or L.2, 15s. The fencing will cost me at the outside two dollars more per acre, and sowing one dollar and a half, making in all L.3, 12s. 6d. My log-house, 34 by 22, and two storeys, will give me six good rooms at least for roughing in, and will cost me at the outside, to make it comfortable, not more than L.50. In this my friend and I will live during the winter, and until I get things prepared for building. We have every thing as comfortable and good to eat as the most reasonable man could wish; and barring pewter spoons for silver, horn-handled knives for ivory, our table would not blush to stand alongside one at home. I have made three trips to Toronto since our location, and bought a load of things each time. I must make three trips more, most likely, before winter, to complete stores, pick up labourers, and arrange for land. Well, with the whole of this hard work, much hard dealing, thought, and calculation, I grow more and more enthusiastic in favour of the country. Our climate is delightful, and our neighbourhood excellent and obliging. *I would not for twenty thousand pounds return to Scotland.* I want not money, but to lead a useful life. Now, Alexander, if you want to buy land for your boys, do it immediately." Here the writer enters into private details, so we pass on to his next letter. After giving some further account of his operations, he thus proceeds to speak of his toils:—"Riding fourteen miles to get lumber or sawn timber drawn, to ride to measure every cart-load myself, and to do at least one-half of what one at home would find people trustworthy enough to do for him, you will not wonder that the toils of a beginning are as numerous as they are weighty. However, I like the life amazingly. I find at all events some scope for my mind; and if there be difficulties to surmount, there is no little pleasure in overcoming them, and still greater in feeling one's self equal to it. I have just been buying a hundred bushels of oats at 11½d. a-bushel, so you know what oats may be had for; excellent apples, 7½d. per bushel; wheat is high this year—that is, a dollar a bushel; and butcher meat for 2½d. and 3d. per lb.; potatoes the same price as oats."

In another letter he says—"Since my last, I have removed to my new residence; and although, as I said before, I have to break my neck to get a view of the heavens overhead, get the cramp in my fingers from milking the cow in these cold mornings, follow the trail of my oxen when they stray, and be alternately plasterer, glazier, slater, delver, and chopper, so that my hands have become as hard as elm, and their shape like bullock's lights, with Bologna sausages for fingers—I am, for all this, as pleased as Punch, and even get fat on it. Indeed, I must say, I have been indefatigable since my adoption of my new calling; so that, if I don't succeed in establishing some degree of order, and management, and evidence of prosperity, 'twill neither be for want of activity, decision, good humour, or system." It is clear that this is the sort of person for a Canadian life. Again, in January 1834, he says—"I rise every morning at five o'clock, and awake the household; and while the servants are managing the breakfast, so as to get all comfortably over by daylight, I light the fire in our room, for I exact no service not absolutely necessary. I don't mean what you call *necessary* at home, but things of far lower estimate. My shoes, for instance, which are somewhat of the thickest, are well-greased twice a-week, instead of being blackened, which is very well for walking the streets, but of wondrous little use here. I have cut down twenty acres since my last, and am continuing the good work. We muster in all seven axes, and get through about an acre a-day; but as other matters interfere to take off my hands, I find I cannot average more than about twelve acres a-month. I see by my account with the bank that they have credited me with ——; and as money currency goes as far here as money sterling does in England, I calculate I am a gainer of rather more than a fifth by the transfer: that, with the high rate of interest, the cheapness of living, and exemption from taxes, makes me at least three times as rich a man as I was at home."

By the next letter, we find the writer equally pleased with the country, both as to soil and climate, and also

for its healthiness. He had now a good deal cleared, and was burning off his timber from twenty-five acres for spring crop. He had rented all that he had cleared to a farmer from Scotland for a third of the crop, and was gradually acquiring the means of a lasting independence, along with all the attributes of rural wealth and comfort. It has been said that gentlemen should not emigrate to Canada—that it is a country only for working people; but this idea is quite fallacious. The present is but one of many hundreds of gentlemen who, during all their lives before, had never soiled their fingers with labour; and yet we see what is the result. We venture to say that Mr R. is as active, and puts his hands to as much dirty and hard work, as would be the case with a person bred to rough country labour; while his education and intelligence lead him into the most advantageous course of operations.

Those who cannot immediately purchase land in Canada, sometimes put in grain along with that of any neighbouring farmer, and receive a share of the crop. "This being the case with me this year," says a writer of a letter dated January 1834, "one of my neighbours puts in two fields with me—one of rye, of which he does all the work except half the harvesting, affords half the seed, and gets half the crop; another of peas, of which he does all the work, affords all the seed, and gets two-thirds of the crop."

We quote the following from a letter written by a settler in the township of Nichol, Upper Canada, to a friend in Scotland, and which appeared in the Aberdeen Herald:—

"From the experience of myself and friends, I give my plain candid opinion on this matter, when I say to the emigrant newly come amongst us, beware of attempting to clear more than you have a rational prospect of finishing in time for the season of sowing or planting. Two acres well cleared are worth five acres indifferently finished; and if you can set about it by the first or second week in July, you may get two acres nearly ready to receive fall wheat. Should you attempt seven acres, unless you have a strong force and plenty of dollars, it is ten to one but you will fail of being ready in time; and if the spring is as backward as I have seen it, you would be too late for cropping them. Now, if you can get two or two and a half acres sown with fall wheat the first autumn you are in the woods, and get half an acre cleared for potatoes by the 15th or 20th of May, which may be quite practicable, and perhaps another half acre cleared for turnips by the 20th of June, I maintain there is a rational prospect of your eating the produce of your own farm during the second year of your settlement, and have as much as bring you to the next crop; but bear in mind, that during the first year you must buy in your provisions or work for them. Go on clearing for fall wheat during the summer, and perhaps you may get four or five acres ready by the second autumn; and if you can get the stubble burned off, when your first crop of fall wheat grows, by the 20th or 25th of May, next year you may get in a crop of barley without ploughing, and timothy-grass seed grown along with it, to give you a crop of hay during the third year. If you can get another acre or so cleared for potatoes, you will have some of them to dispose of after supplying yourself; and where turnips and potatoes grew the previous year, you may get spring wheat or oats sown the next. This may be a rational prospect of the fruits of your industry at the end of your third autumn or second harvest, and thus you may begin to feel yourself in a thriving way. This, however, brings me to speak upon the next matter for the emigrant's consideration—live-stock. If he can possibly afford it, he must endeavour to procure a cow to begin the world with. During the summer months, a cow gets her meat in the forest without costing the owner a farthing for keep; and for the other six months straw and turnips will be advantageous, but tops of trees, felled down for the purpose, seem to be the food they are instinctively inclined to prefer. The last, of course, costs the farmer the trouble of chopping them down, but as he may be engaged doing so for the purpose of clearing, he thus 'kills two dogs with one bone.' Clearing can scarcely be carried on without the assistance of a yoke of oxen; but unless the emigrant can buy food for them, I would not recommend him to purchase these during the first autumn, but rather hire a man and a yoke to assist him when and where necessary; and he may have some more encouragement to buy a yoke during the following year, with the prospect of having some food growing for them. You will understand that I have been writing about the *bush farming*, as it is called, and taking it for granted that I am addressing an intending emigrant who is possessed of a moderate supply of money. In fact, supposing he had a considerable amount with him, still he will be nothing the worse for adopting the plan I have laid down. Were it possible to get a small cleared farm to commence upon, it would perhaps be more advantageous to the emigrant.

I now finish my letter by giving my opinion on the subject as a whole. If a man has firmness, patience, and fortitude, combined with perseverance and prudence, he will in the course of a few years be quite comfortable—I might say independent—even supposing he set himself down in the bush at a considerable distance from neighbours; but if he could get the chance of a farm with four or five acres cleared upon it, I would recommend him to fix upon such in preference to one completely wild, unless he is careless of what sort of neighbours he may be likely to have about him."

Another letter, dated from Fort Erie, says—"Wheat is selling here for 5s. per bushel; oats, 1s. 3d. per bushel; butter, 6d. per lb.; eggs, 6d. per dozen; beef, 2½d. to 3d. per lb. Servants' wages, L.2 to L.2, 10s. per month, with board. Tea, 3s. per lb.; green tea, 4s. 6d. Potatoes are selling at 1s. per bushel; 350 bushels is an average crop per acre.

A farmer can settle here in style with L.500, and keep as good a table as any of our lairds; but of course must attend to his business and keep at home, as servants here are much less to be depended on than they are in Scotland. I have seen a few persons in the ague, but they seem to think little about it; those on Lake Erie are more liable to it than those on the lower lake."

Extract from a letter dated Sandwich, Western district, Upper Canada, which appeared in the Inverness Courier:—

"In this district, after mature consideration, I have finally settled. Having at a very early period been colonised by the French, and since that time vastly improved by its numerous proprietary, it has all the commercial advantages of the mother country, with infinitely greater capabilities of supplying the raw materials. The fertility of our soil is even here proverbial, and our produce superior in quality; so much so, that our wheat is uniformly a shilling ahead of any other. Along the sides of the isthmus on which we are planted (for with the Lake St Clair on the one hand, and Erie on the other, it almost is such), there is ready and cheap conveyance by steam; while the Thames, a noble and majestic stream that intersects the interior, opens up the inland parts. Not even a tree is felled in the remotest parts of the country, but may be conveyed by water to market. That of Detroit, on the American side, is flocked to from all parts of the Union and of the British possessions; and, both from the numbers that attend, and the quality of the articles produced, is among the best in the country. There is abundance of woodcocks, snipes, and deer in the district.

But what chiefly fixed my determination was the salubrity of the climate, which, compared with that of Lower Canada, and most parts of Upper, is immeasurably superior.

We have abundance of room for settlers. Were you to sail down the Thames, for instance, and see the country along its banks studded with cultivated farms, and closely shaded behind with the 'tall trees of nature's growth,' waving their majestic foliage to the breeze of heaven, and seeming to court the hand of man to re-

move them from the situations in which they have so long flourished untouched; were you to meet the steamboats as they ply their course upwards—their decks crowded with emigrants, driven perhaps from the land of their fathers, and now come to seek a home 'beyond the western wave,' you would, as I have often done, heave a sigh for the wretchedness in other climes that here might be relieved—for the starving inmates of many a hovel that here might have 'plenty and to spare.'"

Extract of a letter from a millwright who left Aberdeen for Zorra, Upper Canada, in 1832, to his friends in Scotland:—"This is a salubrious climate; nothing beyond some trifling ailments has, ever since we came here, been the matter with any of us. This is a mercy for which we ought to feel thankful, for many of the first settlers were deeply afflicted with fever and ague for nine, ten, or twelve months, during which time they were unable to do any thing for themselves. I have purchased a farm of about 100 acres, and have got some little stock upon it: we have got two cows, a yoke of oxen, and a year-old steer, three sheep, and a hog. Our cows have been very useful, the one gives us milk in summer, the other supplies us pretty well in winter; our oxen, with a waggon, we got the other day. With such a stock on a farm of 100 acres, with about 30 acres cleared, we get on very comfortably. In a new settlement as this is, far removed from market, it is no easy matter to raise money; but, in this respect, there is a prospect of improvement. Now, as to the important question, shall I advise you to follow us? Were I to consult merely my own feelings and comfort, I should say, without hesitation—*come, come every one of you*—come as soon as possible. Here, with hard labour and industry, after three or four years, you might find yourself in possession of a piece of land, at least fifty acres, which you could call your own; also a yoke of oxen, and cows, &c., upon it, besides other property. Judge if such can be the case where you are. But it cannot be concealed that there are difficulties to encounter, and privations to be endured, which every one has not resolution to face or patience to bear; *these especially occur to those who have little or nothing to commence with.* Our winter has, as yet, been just such as yours—very moderate. For some time we had the frost perhaps rather more intense than you ever have it, but it has had no durability; it has been, however, easier than usual, and the former was as much severer. The heat of the last summer was fully greater and of longer continuance than usual; and I may say that I have felt neither the heat of summer nor the cold of winter at all insufferable; nay, though both have been stronger than in Scotland, I have felt both more disagreeable there, however it may be accounted for. We have had several slight storms, but none of them have lasted above a week or two. Our cattle here live in summer by ranging the woods; in winter, if scarce of fodder, we can bring them through by chopping down the maple, on the tops of which they seem to fare sumptuously. Making sugar from the maple-tree is here a principal source of gain to the settler. The sugar season begins generally about the middle of March, and lasts about a month. Some will make from ten to twelve cwt. in a season, which can be sold for about L.2 per cwt.—a good deal of which, however, must generally be taken in goods. Two months hence, we expect to be able to tell you more about it, as we intend to make the most we can of it. It would be desirable if you could send or bring some seeds—an English pint of good potato oats, barley, a few seeds of the best kinds of potato, some yellow turnip seeds, early carrots, onions, carraway seed, some greens and cabbage seeds, and a few roots of strawberries. We have wild gooseberries in the woods, but no garden gooseberries; some of them you could bring if you come yourself, the others could be packed in a small box."

Extract of a letter from a gardener, who left Aberdeenshire in 1834, to a friend there:—"I got into a very good situation as soon as I arrived in Montreal. I am engaged for one year. My wages are not so high as I expect they will be when I become better acquainted with the climate of the country. Just now I have L.40 per annum, and bed, board, and washing. I have three acres of a garden, along with ten acres of apple orchard, to take charge of; and am assisted by two labourers who are constantly with me. The garden is surrounded by high brick walls, covered with peach and nectarine trees. The peaches here grow to a great size, and ripen excellently in the open air. The grapes bear well on trelisses in the garden. I had a fine crop of these, superior to any I ever saw in the houses at home; and the melons are also surpassingly fine. I cut 300 of very fine melons from a small piece of ground not more than 20 feet by 12. Some of them weighed 15 lbs., and most of them from 6 to 7 lbs. They require no attention here whatever. Just sow the seed in the open garden, and keep them clear of weeds, and this is all you have to do. We do not think it worth while to give cucumbers garden room. We sow them about the ditch sides in the fields, and they produce most abundantly. Gourds come to a great size, some of them weighing 50 lbs. You will not be surprised that we can grow all these things in the open air, when I inform you what degree of heat we have for three months here during the summer. The thermometer stood for three months at 99 degrees all day in the shade, and 86 all night. I thought I would be roasted alive, being obliged to take my bed out of the house and lie in an open shed, with nothing on but a single sheet; and after all I perspired very freely. The weather is cooler now, and they tell me that winter will soon be on, and continue for six months, during which all out-door work will be suspended. Wheaten bread is very cheap. You can buy a loaf that will weigh 6 lbs. for 8d. Vegetables sell very high in the market. A good cauliflower will bring 8d. A cabbage, 4d. Potatoes, 2s. 6d. per bushel. Barley, 3s. 6d. per bushel. Beef sells at 4d. per lb. Pork, 6d. per lb. Mutton, 3½d. per lb. Eggs, 5d. per dozen. We can grow no rye-grass here. Our hay is all made of *timothy*-grass. We cut it in the morning, and it is ready to be put into the barn in the afternoon.

I would advise no person to come here but such as are able and willing to work; for I can assure you this is no place for idlers. Labouring men's wages in this town are 2s. 6d. currency per day; joiners, 5s. per day; masons, the same; tailors, 7s. 6d. per day; blacksmiths, 4s. 6d. per day. Clothes are remarkably high here. Thirty shillings is charged for making and mounting a dress coat; six shillings for making a pair of trousers. Shoes much about the same price as in Scotland, but not so good."

Extract of a letter from a farmer, who left the parish of St Fergus in the summer of 1834, and settled in the township of Whitby, Upper Canada:—"With the advice of Mr D—— and Mr S——, I bought my present farm, which I shall now give you some account of. I have ninety acres of good land, seventy of which are cleared; and on thirty acres of this there never was any crop, and but few stumps to clear off—perhaps not above thirty on each acre. About twenty acres are altogether free of them, and I think I will have the whole cleared this season. I have a good orchard, containing about 140 trees, one-half of which are in full bearing, and the other half planted last year. The barn is good, but the dwelling-house rather indifferent. There are three log-houses on the place, two of which let at L.6 each per annum. I have bought a pair of oxen, which cost me 70 dollars, and two cows, one of which cost L.3, 10s., and the other L.4, 10s. currency. The cattle here are very good: I never expected that I should see such in America. The horses are excellent, and although of the blood kind, can endure a great deal of fatigue. I had almost forgotten to tell you the price of my farm. It cost me L.400 sterling. You may think this a very high price, but you cannot get woodland here under 8 dollars an acre, and it costs 12 dollars to clear and fence it. If a man can buy a cleared farm at L.5 per acre, or L.5, 10s.,

he is much better, if he has the money, than to go into the woods. I have ten acres of summer fallow ready to sow down with wheat; four acres of potato land; four acres where there was Indian corn, which I think I shall have ready to sow down in the course of ten days. I will sow the rest with spring crop, say oats and peas. I fear nothing in this country save the heat in summer; but I have been told, if I stand out this summer, I need not be afraid, as the oldest man in the place does not recollect such a warm season. We are at the same distance from church as we were at Cairnhill, and have two schools within two hundred yards of the door. A blacksmith and wright, a saw-mill and brick-work, are all about the same distance. A person here can have every thing as in the old country, if he has money. Wheat is very cheap. The best does not bring more than 3s. 6d. per bushel; but it is expected to rise very soon. The crop of it was excellent this year, as was also the Indian corn. If any of my old neighbours think of coming here, they need not fear of getting a farm, as there are always plenty to sell."

Extract of a letter from a millwright who left Turriff in the spring of 1834, to a gentleman there:—"The steam-boat fare from Quebec to Montreal was 6s. currency. I sailed from thence to Bytown in a barge—fare 7s. 6d. currency; and 2s. currency for each cwt. of luggage. From Bytown I went by a steamer to Kingston, which cost me 5s., and for each cwt. of luggage 9d.; from Kingston to Toronto, by a similar conveyance, 7s. 6d., without any additional charge for luggage; and then from Toronto to Hamilton, which cost 5s. more. I found employment at none of these places; but did so at the town of Oakville, where a steam-boat was building. Wages, 37s. 6d. per week, for nine weeks. Boarding during this period, 10s. per week. I have now steady employment here, and get 26 dollars per month, with bed, board, and washing. Washing is very high—3s. per dozen of articles of apparel, supposing they were all handkerchiefs. Scotsmen are here more respected and feared than emigrants from other countries. When I commenced first, I had only one sovereign; but I have now L.16, and have besides bought a good many tools. I do not repent of coming here; but I should like to see my native place again, although I never would stop in it altogether. I would not advise any one to come to this country who is not possessed of firmness and persevering habits, as to a stranger every thing appears awkward and forbidding at first; but, if he is possessed of these qualities, he will eventually be sure of success."

CONCLUSION.

Very little remains now to be said regarding these colonies. In our opinion, the question of emigration is one of a very simple nature, and may easily be solved by every thinking person. We have proved beyond the possibility of doubt, that British America is a country placed in infinitely better circumstances at the present moment, than any part of Great Britain and Ireland. We have shown that, in most places, the climate is delightful, and the lands fertile. It is not denied that in many portions of the colonies agues and other local diseases prevail; but it admits of demonstration, that on the whole, they are as healthy as these islands. If the inhabitants of the low uncleared lands in North America be liable to agues and fevers, those of this country are, on the other hand, continually liable to colds and consumptions to a degree fully as dangerous; indeed, the *colds* of the island of Great Britain seem to rank as the most destructive of the diseases which affect mankind. Besides, every year, the continent of America, as it becomes cleared, is becoming more salubrious, and it certainly possesses extensive tracts of land already fully as healthy and pleasant as any part of England. If it be established that British America is that fertile and promising territory which it is represented to be, the whole of the question of emigration resolves itself into this: are men who are in difficulties in this country willing to undergo the trouble of removing thither, and of exerting themselves for a few years after they arrive? As for the notion which obtains as to the pain of parting with early friends, and the place of our birth, that we take to be entirely fallacious. It is the duty of every man to go where his mental and physical properties can be most advantageously exercised. It is a fundamental law of human nature, that mankind must disperse themselves over the whole earth, to seek out the best means of subsistence and the most agreeable spot for their residence. Had intending emigrants to proceed to a land of barbarians, where neither human nor divine laws were understood or acted upon, and where they had to settle on sterile deserts or burning wildernesses, we might excuse their hesitation to depart from their native country; but the case is quite different. To emigrate to Canada, or any other British colony, is simply to remove, as it were, to another part of Great Britain. Distance is nothing; for the removal of a family from the north of Scotland to the south of England would be attended with nearly the same trouble and expense; and, in each case, the family would find itself surrounded with neighbours equally strange. But to emigrate to Upper Canada with the means of purchasing a tract of land, holds out a much better prospect than to remove from one part of Great Britain to another. In this country, it now requires a very great mental and physical effort to obtain a comfortable subsistence. Nearly the whole of the lands and manufactures in the United Kingdom are passing into the hands of capitalists. The rich are becoming very rich, and the poor are sinking deeper and deeper into poverty and wretchedness. The small farmers and tradesmen of England, Scotland, and Ireland, are now placed in that peculiar condition, when emigration to a country less occupied and overdone than their own is almost imperative; for, looking around on all sides, they see little chance of rising into better circumstances, or of rearing their families in that comfortable and reputable manner which their feelings dictate. To such, therefore, British America offers a fair field for removal and settlement. In these countries, lands can be had in full possession, at an expense of from fifteen to twenty times less than what is paid here by way of annual rent; and it is seen that in a space of from three to five years, the whole cost may be realised by the amount of the produce. In these colonies, moreover, there are no taxes; at least they are so very trifling—a penny an acre, we believe, for cultivated land—that they are not worthy of being classed as taxes. There are also no poor-rates, and no tithes, both of which imposts are severely felt in England. The emigrant will likewise have nothing to annoy him in a political sense; for in Canada he continues to be a British subject, and can claim all the prerogatives of such a distinction.

In short, it appears to us that, excepting the drawbacks attending the *first difficulties*, there is no substantial obstacle to a very considerable improvement of circumstances. But we entreat all who have any confidence in our advice, not to imagine that these difficulties will be trifling. They will be, on the contrary, of a very serious nature. Let all remember, that they will see a country consisting of extensive dreary forests, interspersed with settlements on the rudest scale; that the roads are generally in a very bad condition; that the cold of winter far exceeds what is generally experienced in Britain; that many of the conveniences of civilised life can with great difficulty be obtained; and, above all, that every one *must work hard with his own hands*. We tell all, most distinctly, that these things will be seen and experienced; and that a great deal will in all likelihood be suffered for some years. Having, however, by patience and enterprise, got over the early difficulties, the settler will unquestionably possess a competence, along with the blessing of mental tranquillity, and be relieved of all fears respecting the rearing of his family in a state of decent independence.

Printed and published by W. and R. CHAMBERS, Edinburgh.
Sold also by W. S. Orr and Co., London.